

Report to Planning Services Scrutiny Panel



SCRUTINY

Date of meeting: 3 June 2010

Subject: Insurance Cover for the Cost of Adverse Planning Appeals



Epping Forest District Council

Officer contact for further information: Roger Sharp, Principal Accountant (01992 56 4603)

Committee Secretary: M Jenkins, Democratic Services Assistant (01992 564607)

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

That the report regarding Insurance Cover for the Cost of Adverse Planning Appeals be noted.

Report:

At the meeting held on 11 February 2010, arising from a report relating to Best Value Review Members requested that the possibility of an insurance policy to cover the Council for adverse costs arising from planning appeals, be investigated.

The Council's insurance Company, Zurich Municipal were asked if such a policy could be arranged.

Zurich have said that the risk is not an area where insurance cover can be specifically arranged. This is because the risk is identified and classified as a business risk and providing proper planning procedures are followed there would not normally be capacity for a successful appeal and the related costs awarded against the Council.

Zurich did however point out that an area of cover that the Council currently has which could be relevant would be Official's Indemnity, where if an error or omission in the planning process did result in a third party suffering a financial loss, a claim could be relevant where financial loss was suffered.